

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 49 of 1875.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR

The Week ending the 4th December, 1875.

In remarking on that portion of the Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution on the Administration Report of the Rajshahye Division for 1874-75 which dwells on the gradual decline of silk industry in Bogra and Maldah, the *Rajshahye Samachar*, of the 19th November, remarks that the people are found to account for this decline in a way different from His Honor. They seem to think that the greater portion of the profits of this industry, when it was in a flourishing state, went to the Sahibs possessing factories, and that the people obtained but little. Moreover, the silk grown in this part of the country being of an inferior description, there was but little demand for it in foreign markets, except in France, where also, since the late war, the article has been less called for. The decline of this industry, and the consequent distress of the people who were hitherto engaged in it, have begun to tell seriously upon the income of many zamindars. But there is no reason to be equally sorry for the decline in the indigo business. For, as is justly believed, the prosperity of this industry is directly antagonistic to the happiness of the tenantry.

RAJSHAHYE
SAMACHAR,
November 19th, 1875.

2. A correspondent of the *Suhrid*, of the 23rd November, writing from Sherpore, complains of a large number of wicked and lawless characters in that place who have begun to enter by force the houses of poor men at night, and there commit outrages on women. This crime has grown to a fearful extent, and is perpetrated more frequently on dark nights than at any other time. The police are sadly indifferent to this matter.

SUHRID,
November 23rd, 1875.

3. The Kishorgunj correspondent of the same paper would ask Sir Richard Temple to put a stop to the corruption and bribery that prevail so fearfully in the police department and in the judicial service, and which continue to be a standing reproach to the British Government of India. The writer then proceeds to dwell in his lengthy letter on the invidious distinction so frequently made by Government between its Native and European officers, as witness, among others, the cases of Levien and his native sheristadar respectively.

SUHRID.

4. The *Bishwa Dūt*, of the 24th November, remarks, in reference to the Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor on the last Administration Report of the Police Department, that until thoroughly honest men are appointed to this branch of the public service, its numerous abuses and shortcomings will never be removed.

BISHWA DUT,
November 24th, 1875.

5. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, of the 25th November, dwells in a lengthy editorial on the state of political affairs in India and in Europe at the present time. It is generally thought that the visit of the Prince of Wales to India was courted and arranged by Lord Northbrook to wipe out

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
November 25th, 1875.

the reproaches under which his administration has been laboring so long; but we fear, from the state of political complications in Europe at the present time, whether the Prince will be enabled to carry out the arrangements in connection with his visit to their end. In India, also, the dissatisfaction caused to the Rana of Oodeypore by the manner of his recent reception by Government, the outbreak of cholera and the appearance of famine in some parts of the empire, and the recent Perak outrage, all tend to strengthen our doubts as to the success of Lord Northbrook in attaining the object for which the royal visit seems to have been desired.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
November 24th, 1875.

6. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 24th November, does not agree with the views of those that would like to see the law of primogeniture introduced into this country. Though, owing to its absence, the beneficial consequences that have accrued to European society from the prevalence of this system, such as the perpetuation of a landed aristocracy, are sadly wanting in India, still one cannot honestly approve of a system which is at best founded on unjust principles,—giving to the elder, in addition to what belongs to him, the property of the younger brothers also. This law, moreover, is not adapted to the present state of Indian society, which is almost wholly agricultural; while England is mainly a manufacturing country, and thus affords the people ample facilities for earning a livelihood.

BURDWAN
PRACHARIKÁ,
November 26th, 1875.

7. The *Burdwan Pracháriká*, of the 26th November, remarks with regret that Lord Northbrook has refused, on behalf of the Prince of Wales, the invitation of the Maharajah to pay a visit to Burdwan. The latter, and also the inhabitants, were highly gratified to receive the Duke of Edinburgh on the occasion of his visit to India, though that was for a few hours only. Would the programme of the Prince's movements have been so greatly altered by a passing visit to Burdwan that the Government of India has thought it proper to disallow it?

BURDWAN
PRACHARIKÁ.

8. Now that the Road Cess, says the same paper, is about to be levied in the Burdwan district, the poor and ignorant tenantry should be made to clearly understand the conditions under which the cess is to be paid. Mere proclamations will not be enough to warn them against the extortions which are very likely to be made by the zamindars on this account. Government should therefore periodically inspect the cess operations, and take care to see that the zamindars do not take any undue advantage of the ignorance of the tenantry.

GRANVARTÁ
PRAKÁSHIKÁ,
November 27th, 1875.

9. Adverting to the large income derived by Government from the Registration Department, the *Gránvartá Prakáshiká*, of the 27th November, directs the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor to the necessity of appointing competent men to all rural sub-registry offices, and to fix their remuneration on a liberal scale. It is sad to observe that such is not the case at present. Another abuse that loudly calls for reform in connection with these offices is the increasingly large number of idle and illiterate men who are always found ready for a small sum of money to make the identification which is necessary to execute a document.

HINDU HITOSHINI,
November 27th, 1875.

10. The *Hindu Hitoishini*, of the 27th November, regrets to notice that the question of allowing a smaller pay than what would have been granted to Mr. Roberts, had he succeeded in obtaining the Vice-Chairmanship of the Municipality, was at all raised at the late meeting of the Justices. Was such the case, he asks, because the successful candidate happened to be a native?

DACCA PRAKÁSH,
November 28th, 1875.

11. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 28th November, congratulates his fellow-countrymen on receiving a visit from His Royal Highness the Prince of

Wales, and exhorts them to do their utmost in manifesting their loyalty and devotion to the British Government. But while enjoying the glitter and sport with which the occasion will be attended, they should not forget to lay before the Prince the wants and grievances of the country,—the misery of the weavers, the unsatisfactory relations between landlord and tenant, the poverty of the people, and the havoc done to native society by the introduction of spirituous liquors.

12. As an instance of the utter inefficiency of the present police, and especially of that at Chinsurah, the *Sádháraní*, of the 28th November, gives a detailed account of no less than ten cases of theft (within a period of three months), which occurred but recently in a single ward of that town, and in no one of which the police has been able to detect the offender.

SADHARANI,
November 28th, 1875.

13. The same paper, in a lengthy editorial headed the "Justice of the British nation," writes the following :—There are few rulers in this world equally just with the British, whose system of administration is fully in accordance with justice. Nay, their sense of justice is so strong that those who are once brought under their protection, being thought helpless and incapable to manage their own affairs, are never allowed to leave it. A child remains a child for ever in the eyes of the British Government, and is nursed as such by it, and the British have been wont to act thus for a long time. Those that have read the history of the conquests of Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, know well that the descendants of the Saxon races always seek to increase their sphere of action, wherever they have once got access. Apart from the affairs of others, incontrovertible proofs of this sense of justice possessed by the British nation will be found on pondering over our own causes of misfortunes. We opened our hearts to the British without reserve on our first making friends with them, and the thought never crossed our minds how ties of long enduring friendship could bind us to a people with whom we did not agree even in one point. But now we are reaping the bitter fruits of that folly; for we are now no longer in the position of friends with the British. Our relations have changed. We are now in the position of the conquered, and are subjected to the treatment which none but a conquered nation may expect. This is now keenly felt in the manner of treatment extended to the native princes by the British. To corroborate our remarks we need simply refer to the attitude of the Indian Government towards the Nizam.

SADHARANI.

14. The *Soma Prakásh*, of the 29th November, in a lengthy editorial, dwells on the treatment of the Nizam by the Indian Government. No one had believed that the Government of Lord Northbrook could ever be guilty of such an indiscretion as to have sought to ensure the attendance of the young Nizam at Bombay, even by the use of threats, at a time when his responsible ministers were advancing the plea of ill-health, and backing their protestations with a medical certificate. Sir Salar Jung has been disbelieved and dishonored on the mere strength of the Resident's communications, without the least care having been taken to ascertain the facts of the case. Great offence has thus been unjustly given to the native courts. While on this subject, it behoves us to ask Government to make some definite rules laying down the duties of its Residents at native courts, and the degree of interference they can lawfully make in the affairs of the Princes to whose courts they are accredited. For the Residents have really become dangerous to the parties concerned.

SOMA PRAKASH,
November 29th, 1875.

15. The *Sahachar*, of the 29th November, regrets to notice that some native papers have, after the example of some of their Anglo-Indian contemporaries, begun to characterize Sir Richard Temple as a weak-minded

SANACHAR,
November 29th, 1875.

governor. With this, however, the editor cannot agree. Sir Richard's administration affords some instances of enlightened government, guided by public opinion, which were sadly wanting during the "vigorous administrations" of the country. His Honor has doubtless given a cause of great offence to the Anglo-Indian community by his deference to native public opinion and his courtesy to natives, but we cannot understand why this should have been disagreeable to some of our contemporaries of the native press.

SAMACHAR,
November 29th, 1875.

16. The same paper comments with regret on the facts brought to light by the recent correspondence of the Indian Foreign Office with the Nizam's Government, relative to the attendance of the Nizam to do homage to the Prince of Wales at Bombay. These communications strikingly show to what indignities the native courts are subjected to by the paramount power. Every native of India is deeply sorry for the unworthy treatment of Sir Salar Jung by the Government, and is asking whether it would not be better to appoint to the Viceroyalty of India a member of the British Royal Family who would know how to behave with propriety towards native princes.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 4th December 1875.

JOHN ROBINSON,
Government Bengali Translator.

*List of Native Newspapers received and examined for the Week ending the
4th December 1875.*

No.	Name.	Place of publication.	Monthly, weekly, or otherwise.	Date.
1	"Rájshahye Samáshár" ...	Karachmárá, Rájshahye...	Weekly ...	19th November.
2	"Suhrid" ...	Muktágáchá, Mymensingh	Ditto ...	23rd ditto.
3	"Burrisal Vártávaha" ...	Burrisal ...	Ditto ...	24th ditto.
4	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Bauleah, Rájshahye ...	Ditto ...	24th ditto.
5	"Bishwa Dút" ...	Káligát, Calcutta ...	Ditto ...	24th ditto.
6	"Amrita Bazar Patriká" ...	Calcutta ...	Ditto ...	25th ditto.
7	"Dacca Darshak" ...	Dacca ...	Ditto ...	25th ditto.
8	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	Ditto ...	26th ditto.
9	"Burdwan Pracháriká" ...	Burdwan ...	Ditto ...	26th ditto.
10	"Grámvártá Prakáshiká" ...	Comercolly ...	Ditto ...	27th ditto.
11	"Hindu Hitoishini" ...	Dacca ...	Ditto ...	27th ditto.
12	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	28th ditto.
13	"Sádháraní" ...	Chinsurah ...	Ditto ...	28th ditto.
14	"Soma Prakásh" ...	Chingripotáh, 24-Pergha.	Ditto ...	22nd and 29th November.
15	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta ...	Ditto ...	29th November.
16	"Samáshár Chandriká" ...	Ditto ...	Bi-Weekly ...	25th and 29th November.
17	"Sambád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto ...	Daily ...	23rd November to 1st December.
18	"Sambád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	26th to 30th November.
19	"Behár Bandhu" (in Hindi) "Jám Jehán-numá" (in Persian) ...	Patna ...	Ditto ...	24th November.
20	"Urdu Guide" (in Urdu) ...	Ditto ...	Weekly ...	26th ditto.
21		Ditto ...	Ditto ...	27th ditto.

Bengal Secretariat Press.